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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
JONES, HEATHER RAE	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2621	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/602,880	SEO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HEATHER R. JONES	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 April 2008*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,6-9 and 16-37* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,6-9 and 16-37* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *25 June 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/2/2008*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 6-9, and 16-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 6-9, and 16-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato et al. (U.S. Patent 5,884,004).

Regarding claim **1**, Sato et al. discloses a computer readable medium having a data structure for managing reproduction of multiple playback path video data of a title, comprising: a playlist directory area for storing a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files (col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-15), each playlist file for identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and for identifying at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths and the playlist file for storing navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33); a data area for storing at least

one clip file of the multiple playback path video data (col. 6, lines 65-67); and a management area storing management information for managing reproduction of the multiple playback path video data, the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each information file providing a map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file, wherein while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **2**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that a group of playlist files is associated with each playback path (Figs. 20-24 – shows different playback paths).

Regarding claim **6**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the navigation information at least provides information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **7**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 6 including that the different playback paths are related to different stories (Fig. 21 - different scenarios).

Regarding claim **8**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **9**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the data area stores a plurality of clip files of the multiple playback path video data, and the video data for each playback path is stored in a different clip file (col. 6, lines 60-65).

Regarding claim **16**, Sato et al. discloses a method of reproducing multiple playback path video data from a recording medium, comprising: receiving user input selecting one of playback paths (col. 32, line 56 – col. 33, line 16); reproducing at least one playlist file associated with the selected playback path based on navigation information recorded on the recording medium (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33); producing at least one clip file of the multiple playback path video data from the recording medium (col. 32, line 56 - col. 33, line 16); and reproducing management information for managing reproduction of the multiple playback path video data from a management area of the recording medium, the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each information file providing a map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file, wherein

while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **17**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 16 including that the reproducing step reproduces a group of playlist files based on the navigation information (col. 32, line 56 - col. 33, line 16).

Regarding claim **18**, Sato et al. discloses a method of recording a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data on a recording medium, comprising: recording a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files in a playlist directory area of the recording medium (col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-15), each playlist file for identifying a portion of multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths, and including navigation information in the playlist file, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33); recording at least one clip file of the multiple playback path video data in a data area of the recording medium (col. 6, lines 60-65); and recording management information for managing reproduction of the multiple playback path video data in a management area of the recording medium, the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each

information file providing a map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file, wherein while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **19**, Sato et al. discloses a method of reproducing a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: reproducing navigation information from at least one playlist directory area of the recording medium, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33); and reproducing at least one playlist file in the playlist directory area of the recording medium based on the navigation information, each playlist file for identifying a portion of multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist fries associated with different playback paths and for reproducing at least one clip file of the multiple playback path video data from the recording medium (col. 6, lines 60-65; col. 32, line 56 - col. 33, line 16); and reproducing management information for managing reproduction of the multiple playback path video data from a management area of the recording medium, the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each information file providing a

map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file, wherein while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **20**, Sato et al. discloses an apparatus for recording a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: an optical recording unit (1200) configured to record data on a recording medium (Fig. 2); an encoder (900) configured to encode at least video data (Fig. 2); and a controller (200 and 1200), coupled to the optical recording unit, configured to control the optical recording unit to record at least one clip file of the encoded video data in a data area on the recording medium, the controller configured to control the optical recoding device to record a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files and navigation information in a playlist directory area of the recording medium, each playlist file for identifying a portion of multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path, the controller configured to control the optical recording unit to record management information for managing reproduction of the encoded video data in a management area

of the recording medium (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33), the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each information file providing a map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file (col. 22, lines 11-12), wherein while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **21**, Sato et al. discloses an apparatus for reproducing a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: an optical reproducing unit (2004) configured to reproduce data recorded on a recording medium (Fig. 3); and a controller (2002), coupled to the optical reproducing unit, configured to control the optical reproducing unit to reproduce navigation information from at least one playlist file of the recording medium (Fig. 2), and control the optical reproducing unit to reproduce at least one playlist file in a playlist directory area of the recording medium based on the navigation information (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33), the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path, each playlist file for identifying a portion of multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist

files associated with different playback paths (Figs. 18, 20-24, and 30; col. 21, lines 12-19; col. 22, lines 23-33); the controller configured to control the optical reproducing device to reproduce at least one clip file of the at least video data from a data area of the recording medium (col. 6, lines 60-65; col. 32, line 56 - col. 33, line 16); the controller configured to control the optical reproducing unit to reproduce management information for managing reproduction of the at least video data in a management area of the recording medium, the management information including an information file associated with each clip, each information file providing a map for the associated clip file, the map containing presentation time information corresponding to address information for the associated clip file, wherein while a playback path of a multiple playback path is being reproduced, another playback path of the multiple playback path is not reproduced (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **22**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 20 including the multiple playback path video data are represented by packets; and the map maps presentation time stamps to packet addresses (Figs. 20-24, 49, and 50; col. 6, lines 60-64; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 22, lines 11-12 - management tables (maps) store the addresses of the associated clips).

Regarding claim **23**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 20 including that a group of playlist files is associated with each playback path (Figs. 20-24 – shows different playback paths).

Regarding claim **24**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 20 and 23 including that the navigation information at least provides information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **25**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 21 including that a group of playlist files is associated with each playback path (Figs. 20-24 – shows different playback paths).

Regarding claim **26**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 21 and 25 including that the navigation information at least provides information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **27**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 21 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back, and the controller is configured to control the optical reproducing unit to reproduce the playlist file based on the

navigation information (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **28**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 16 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **29**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 16 including that the navigation information at least provides information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **30**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 18 including that recording the playlist directory includes recording a group of playlist files based on the navigation information (col. 6, lines 60-67; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-15).

Regarding claim **31**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 18 including that recording the playlist directory includes recording the navigation information to indicate a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **32**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 18 including that recording the playlist directory includes recording the navigation information to at least provide information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **33**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 19 including that the reproducing the at least one playlist file includes reproducing a group of playlist files based on the navigation information (col. 6, lines 60-67; col. 20, lines 22-56; col. 21, lines 12-15).

Regarding claim **34**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 19 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **35**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 19 including that the navigation information at least provides information for linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56).

Regarding claim **36**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 20 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular

playlist file is played back, and the controller is configured to control the optical recording unit to record the playlist file based on the navigation information, and the controller is configured to control the optical recording unit to record the playlist file based on the navigation information (Figs. 20-24; col. 20, lines 23-56 – seamless playback).

Regarding claim **37**, Sato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the at least one clip file is linked to more than one of the plurality of playlist files (Fig. 21).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Hirayama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,819,003) discloses multi-scene data that includes navigation information relating to the different playlists.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HEATHER R. JONES whose telephone number is (571)272-7368. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on 571-272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/John W. Miller/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2623

Heather R Jones
Examiner
Art Unit 2621

HRJ
April 9, 2008